

Press Release

HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Office of the County Executive



PUBLIC SAFETY

"Ensuring a Safe
Harford"

EDUCATION

"Preparing Now,
Building for the Future"

EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

"Governing Smarter"

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

"Growing and Sustaining
Harford's Prosperity"

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

"Protecting Our
Environment"

QUALITY LIVING

"Safeguarding What is
Important to Harford
County Citizens"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 27, 2012

Media Contact: Robert B. Thomas, Jr., Manager of Communications – 443-617-1954 or Ben Lloyd, Deputy Chief of Staff at 443-615-5918

County Executive Declares State of Emergency for Harford County *Preparations underway for Hurricane Sandy*

(Bel Air, MD) - - Harford County Executive David R. Craig has declared a State of Emergency for Harford County. The County Executive executed the Order Friday, October 26, 2012 at 3:44 p.m.

The Harford County Division of Emergency Operations also partially activated Friday in preparation for the arrival of Hurricane Sandy late Sunday or early Monday morning. Additionally, all departments and agencies of Harford County Government have been involved in briefings and planning for the impending storm. The Department of Public Works Division of Highways began preparations on Thursday.

The Harford County volunteer fire and emergency medical personnel, as well as local, county and state law enforcement officials have also initiated preparations for Hurricane Sandy. Among the specialized units preparing for the storm are the Technical Rescue Team (TRT), the Swift Water Rescue Team and the Hazardous Materials Response Team.

To help individuals and families be better prepared for Hurricane Sandy the Harford County Division of Emergency Operations (EOC) encourages citizens to take the following actions:

- Have a battery powered radio to monitor weather and storm related news.
- Have working flashlights with fresh batteries readily available. In the event of a power outage, use flashlights instead of candles.
- Have an adequate supply of water for drinking and sanitation purposes – at least one gallon of water per person per day for a minimum of three (3) days.

(more)

County Executive Declares State of Emergency for Harford County

October 27, 2012

Page Two

- Have an adequate supply of non-perishable foods available – at least enough to last three (3) days.
- When using portable generators, do not operate the generator inside the home or garage as this may result in a build up of carbon monoxide and become a severe life-safety issue for the occupants of the home.
- Only use cooking equipment intended for outdoor use, outside the home. Never use a portable grill or barbeque inside a home.
- Prepare an emergency kit with medicines and supplies available for you and those in your care.
- As necessary, fill prescription medications before the storm if a prescription is running low.
- For those who must drive during the course of the storm, treat all intersections as a four-way stop if traffic lights are not functioning due to power outages. Come to a complete stop at all such intersections and then proceed with caution.
- If you leave your home during the storm, tell family members or neighbors where you are going and how to contact you in the event of an emergency.

“The best way to survive a storm or severe weather event is by being prepared,” said County Executive Craig. “Harford County Government is working hard with our local and state partners to ensure the safety of our residents during Hurricane Sandy. Our citizens can do their part by being prepared,” County Executive Craig remarked.